

**Question for written answer P-001296/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D)**

Subject: EU backing for simpler and flexible forms of smart working

The European Council, within the framework of the European Employment Strategy, encouraged unions and employers some time ago to negotiate agreements on modernising working arrangements in order to raise productivity, make businesses more competitive on the market and ensure the necessary equilibrium between flexibility and job security.

The Commission, for its part, encouraged unions and employers to start negotiations on teleworking during its consultations on modernising and improving labour relations.

Simpler flexible teleworking initiatives (smart working) are now widespread in many EU countries. They offer businesses an effective tool with which to modernise their working arrangements and workers benefit from a better work-life balance.

1. With regard to the Commission's recommendations, what is the current state of play in the various Member States?
2. The information society offers many possibilities. Taking established practices and Member States' own national procedures as a starting point, will the Commission continue to support use of these possibilities and encourage new kinds of working arrangements which combine flexibility, job security, quality and productivity?
3. Would it be in favour of promoting studies on the impact these new practices have on employment rates in Europe?